

# ISLE OF ARRAN FERRY COMMITTEE

## Minute of Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.30pm in the Kinloch Hotel

**Present:**

Robert Waine (Chair)	Jim Lees (ACVS)
Liz Robertson (NFU)	Simon Richmond (CalMac)
Bill Calderwood (Community Council)	John Bruce (NAC)
Kenneth Gibson (MSP)	Alastair Dobson (Visit Arran)
Iain Thomson (Construction/Haulage)	David Cameron (NTS)

Also present: Elaine Parker (Minutes)

### 1. **Welcome & Apologies:**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Jim Henderson.

### 2. **Minute of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> September and 14<sup>th</sup> October were adopted as a true record.

9 <sup>th</sup> September	Proposed: Jim Lees	Seconded: Liz Robertson
14 <sup>th</sup> October	Proposed: John Bruce	Seconded: Jim Lees

### 3. **Matters Arising**

#### 3.1 Summer Timetable

The Chair reported that Transport Scotland had confirmed that the Summer timetable would remain unchanged for next year. Simon confirmed that the additional sailings would be included in the new timetable.

#### 3.2 Gangway

Simon confirmed that the gangways were in place, however, he raised the issue that Clydeport were not readily cooperating with the proposed move of the Passenger Access System cabin. The Chair agreed to contact Clydeport regarding this issue.

#### 3.3 Brodick Pier Development

John Bruce spoke of the recent meeting and distributed the papers to the committee. Kenneth confirmed that the development was on schedule and the general feeling was that a 2 phase development would not be a practical option. Alastair spoke of the follow up meeting he had attended that day, and explained that CMAL would be likely to ask a local group for advice and input once the project is underway. It was planned for the development to go to tender March/April '14, with development planned to begin towards the end of 2014.

#### 3.4 Claonaig Ferry

Liz acknowledged Simons previous email regarding the price rises on the Lochranza to Claonaig route. However, she explained that the prices she was referring to, were those publicised on a notice board on the ferry, which gave the price for a car and 4 passengers. It was this price that had increased by 40% over 4 years. Simon expressed that their marketing team would be very happy to discuss possible promotion's on this route with Visit Arran.

**4. Finance**

Copies of the financial statement were distributed at the meeting. It was discussed that the invoice for Robbie Browns retirement gift would go directly to the ACVS office to be paid out of the Ferry Committee account.

**5. Correspondence**

Liz reported that she had received a complaint from a member of the public. On the 3.15 sailing on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> October, the passenger reported that they had been held on a mezzanine deck while passengers disembarked and boarded for the next sailing.

Although the committee acknowledged that foot passengers needed to be given priority so they could meet the train, communication needed to be improved. Simon would look into this incident.

**6. Port Managers Report**

As the Port Manager was not present, Simon gave a summary of recent events. It was reported that there had been 3 cancellations throughout October which were due to high winds. The Caledonian Isles had been delayed due to a rope snagged round the propeller, although all passengers had been subsequently carried on the delayed service. It was also reported that the Caledonian Isles would be in dry-dock from 3<sup>rd</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> January, therefore the Clansman would be on the Brodick-Ardrossan route from the 2<sup>nd</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>.

The Summer sailing figures were distributed. They showed that there had been a 4% increase in passengers and a 5% increase in cars carried. Kenneth felt that these figures were disappointing considering the great weather this Summer, although Simon felt that this year's good weather would be likely to have a greater impact on next year's figures. Simon also felt that these numbers remained positive, considering the large loss of passenger numbers over the Easter period due to the snow.

Simon also reported that the 2 disabled spaces at the pier were being repainted. The Chair would write to Guy Bodie to enquire about the fence that had been erected to direct passengers around the front of the bus area.

Kenneth raised the issue of the condition of the car park at Ardrossan. He would raise this issue with Clydeport but asked the Committee to do so also.

**7. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in the Kinloch Hotel.

**8. A.O.B**

Bill had been approached by several people who were concerned that there would be no concessions with the introduction of RET. Kenneth would double check and clarify this.

With no further business, the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.

**Signed:** .....

**Dated:** .....

## **Action Points**

**Chair:** - **Contact Clydeport regarding the PAS Cabin and car park at Ardrossan.**  
- **Invite Clydeport to January meeting.**  
- **Contact Guy Bodie regarding fence at pier.**

**Kenneth Gibson:** - **Contact Clydeport regarding Ardrossan Car Park.**  
- **Clarify concession tickets in relation to RET.**